

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of:	)
	)
Tomoharu TANAKA et al.	) Group Art Unit: TBD
	)
Serial No.: Continuation of 09/961,355	) Examiner: TBD
	)
Filed: April 14, 2004	) Attorney Docket No. 001701.00205
	)
For: NONVOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR	)
MEMORY DEVICE AND	)
NONVOLATILE SEMICONDUCTOR	)
MEMORY SYSTEM	)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) Applicants submit herewith the references cited on the attached PTO form 1449. Copies of the cited references were filed in parent application Serial No. 09/961,355, filed September 25, 2001, allowed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these references in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.104.

Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed documents as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

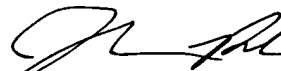
It is respectfully requested that the Examiner fully consider each item of information, initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 in the appropriate place to indicate that the information has been considered, and return a copy of the initialed form to the undersigned in accordance with MPEP Section 609.

Tomoharu TANAKA, et al.  
Attorney Docket No.: 001701.00205

It is believed that no fee is required to ensure consideration of the cited references by the Examiner. However, if a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0733. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

By:  *Reg. No. 43,338*  
for Joseph M. Potenza  
Registration No. 28,175

Eleventh Floor  
1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
(202) 824-3000

Dated: April 14, 2004

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	Continuation of 09/961,355
Filing Date	April 14, 2004
First Named Inventor	Tomoharu TANAKA
Art Unit	TBD
Examiner Name	TBD
Attorney Docket Number	001701.00205

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A	US- 5,740,112	04/1998	TANAKA, et al.	
	B	US- 5,905,476	05/1999	MCLAUGHLIN, et al.	
	C	US- 5,941,969	08/1999	RAM, et al.	
	D	US- 6,151,619	11/2000	RIDDLE	
	E	US- 6,219,708	04/2001	MARTENSON	
	F	US- 6,430,667	08/2002	LOEN	
	G	US- 6,513,719	02/2003	IMURA	
	H	US- 2003/0033286	02/2003	BURGESS	
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			
	N	US-			
	O	US-			
	P	US-			
	Q	US-			
	R	US-			
	S	US-			
	T	US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	U	JP 2000-49277	02/2000	SAKUI, et al.		
	V					
	W					
	X					
	Y					
	Z					

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.